

Norellia spinipes R.-D. (Diptera: Scathophagidae) in London. — This species was added to the British fauna by Chandler and Stubbs (1969) on specimens taken from Surrey and Buckinghamshire. It has subsequently been recorded from new localities in Surrey, from Sussex (Chandler, 1970; Stubbs, 1973); Windsor Forest, Berks (Allen, 1983) and Middlesex (Smith & Vardy, 1988). I can now add records for London South of the Thames from specimens taken in Forest Hill, SE27 in 1987.

The records are as follows. One male was taken in a water trap containing detergent and formalin placed in secondary deciduous woodland on the Horniman Nature Trail adjoining the Horniman Gardens, Forest Hill on 5.viii.87. A second male was swept from low vegetation alongside the path on the trail on 25.ix.87. The ground flora by the side of the path at this site includes yarrow, stinging nettle, white deadnettle, coltsfoot, goosegrass and creeping buttercup whilst in the wood, ivy and bramble are dominant with a few daffodils also being present. The nature trail itself has been created on the railway embankment that formerly carried the line between Crystal Palace and Peckham.

A third male of *N. spinipes* was found amongst the dead insects in a fluorescent light holder in the nearby Horniman Museum. This was emptied and examined on 5.ix.87 and although the specimen was in very good condition, I understand that the fitting had not been disturbed for several months, so that no precise date can be attached to this specimen.

The species has larvae that mine the leaves of daffodils and pupate near the base of the plant. The daffodils on the nature trail have been planted by Lewisham Parks Department annually since the early 1970s and were purchased from a Dutch firm, J. Bonkenberg & Son based at Heemstade. It is of particular interest to note therefore that of the few Dutch (and Continental) records, one is from Heemstade—a female on 9.v.53 (de Jong, 1985). It has not been possible however to discover whether the daffodils on the nature trail were initially grown in the Netherlands or originally imported from elsewhere. It is difficult to resist suggesting however that the *Norellia* may have been introduced from here in the daffodils—the similar non-British *N. tipularia* was probably so introduced into the Netherlands in imported daffodil bulbs from Hungary (de Jong, 1985). Chandler and Stubbs (1969) considered that *N. spinipes* may have been introduced into this country in imported daffodil bulbs. It would seem unusual that such a distinctive species could remain undetected in this country for such a long time were it to be native.

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